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OGC 64-3938 (a)

File

14 December 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Assistant SSA-DD/S

SUBJECT:

Payment of Parking Fees for Employees
Attending Washington Area School

- 1. You have requested us to review a memorandum addressed to you from Chief/RID/ADM which would reimburse Agency employees for parking fees for attendance at Washington area training located away from the building to which they are usually assigned.
- 2. The referent memorandum quotes 36 Comp. Gen 795 as allowing mileage for employees properly authorized to use privately owned automobiles for official business irrespective of whether such employees travel to their offices or of whether they perform duty within or without the duty area. In that case, Civil Service Commission investigators were required to use their personally owned vehicles for official duty both within and without the Headquarters area as a regular part of their Government service. The Comptroller General ruled that "as a general rule...where an officer or employee is properly authorized to use a privately owned automobile for official business, it is within administrative discretion to allow him mileage from whatever point he begins his journey...."

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- 3. In the present case, four Headquarters' employees were assigned to two weeks' training duty at the IBM School in Washington. Since they were not required to leave the Headquarters area, they could not expect mileage or reimbursement for parking unless they could qualify as employees whose peculiar assignments required regular use of their vehicles for official duty. It is our opinion that the travel performed by the four Agency employees from home to school is identical with that required for normal duty from home to the office and therefore is not reimbursable. Any occasion to travel after arrival at school on official business would have been reimbursable, of course. Thus, the administrative determination that parking fees would be reimbursed while these employees were attending IBM was in error.
- 4. The Certifying Officer was legally correct in taking exception to the payment of parking fees in this case.

5	I am	returning	VOUT	documents	with t	this	memorandum.

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Attachments